

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.usplo.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/681,666	10/08/2003	Kevin I. Bertness	C382.12-0169 7255	
27367 WESTMAN C	7590 09/26/2007 HAMPLIN & KELLY,	EXAMINER		
SUITE 1400	,	TSO, EDWARD H		
900 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-3319			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2838	
		•		
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			09/26/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

K
ン

	Application No.	Applicant(s)			
Office Action Commence	10/681,666	BERTNESS, KEVIN I.			
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit			
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Edward Tso	2838			
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply					
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).					
Status					
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6/25/2	Note to Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6/25/2007.				
2a)⊠ This action is FINAL . 2b)☐ This	a)☑ This action is FINAL . 2b)☐ This action is non-final.				
·	3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is				
closed in accordance with the practice under E	x parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 45	3 O.G. 213.			
Disposition of Claims					
4) ⊠ Claim(s) 1.4-18 and 20-30 is/are pending in the 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdray 5) ☐ Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) ⊠ Claim(s) 1 and 4-30 is/are rejected. 7) ☐ Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) ☐ Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	vn from consideration.				
Application Papers					
9) The specification is objected to by the Examine 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) access applicant may not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction of the original than the correction of the correction o	epted or b) objected to by the Edrawing(s) be held in abeyance. See ion is required if the drawing(s) is obj	e 37 CFR 1.85(a). ected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).			
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119					
 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 					
Attachment(s)					
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date	4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal Pa	ite			

Application/Control Number: 10/681,666

Art Unit: 2838

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 4-18 and 20-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bertness (US 6,316,914) in view of Vinci (US 5,672,964). The references do not explicitly disclose an integral torch/light to illuminate the area of testing. The testing device of Vinci teaches the use of a testing probe with an integral light to illuminate the work area (column 2, line 65 to column 3, line 2). Its purpose is to reduce the use of addition support for the light in tight places. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have integrated the light onto the testing probe as taught by Vinci for the purpose of directing light to the work area without the need for additional "help." Moreover, it also has been held that the constituent parts are so combined as to constitute a unitary whole. Webster's New International Dictionary (2nd Edition) defines "integral" as "(2) composed of constituent parts making a whole; composite; integrated." Therefore the use of a one piece construction instead of the two or more pieces would be merely a matter of obvious engineering choice. In re Larson, 144 USPQ 347 (CCPA 1952); In re Fridolph, 50 CCPA 745, 89 F.2d 509, 135 USPQ 319.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 6/25/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the probe light of Vinci does not connect to the Kelvin connector and that it would not have been obvious to do so. The Examiner disagrees. The purpose of having a light integrated to the tester is (1) to illuminate the area to be tested, (2) to free the other hand from having to hold the light and (3) prevent any shadow spot on the area to be tested. Vinci teaches all of these advantages.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to the Examiner at the below-listed number on every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Application/Control Number: 10/681,666

Art Unit: 2838

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Karl Easthom, can be reached at (571) 272-1989 on Monday-Thursday.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the receptionist at (571) 272-2800, Monday-Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm, EST.

By:

/Edward H Tso/

EDWARD H TSO Primary Examiner (571) 272-2087 Page 4